

## ONE MILLION BRITONS TO BE CALLED TO ARMS

NEW BRITISH WAR PROGRAM  
TO CALL FOR PROMOTIONS

Strength of the British Army is to be Brought Up to Four Million Men.

## AN ALL NIGHT DEBATE

Teutonic Powers Again Trying to Swing Greece and Roumania into Line.

LONDON, Dec. 22.—After an all night debate the House of Commons early today granted an increase of one million men in the British army, bringing up its strength on paper to four million. With the increase come changes in higher commands. Lieutenant General Robertson, chief of the general staff, having been recalled from France to become chief of the imperial staff in London in place of Lieutenant General Murray, who is about to receive an important command. These changes are accepted here as indicating closer co-operation among the Allies in the conduct of military operations on the western front.

The Teutonic powers are represented as taking full advantage of the moral effect produced by the withdrawal of British forces from Gallipoli peninsula, and to be attempting once more to swing Greece and Roumania to their side in the Balkan operations. If the news of the bombardment of Varna is correct Russia is losing no time in an attempt to forestall these efforts. From several sources, all unofficial, London has heard of the bombardment of the Bulgarian port.

Various despatches state that the Russian warships are accompanied by a fleet of transports which, according to the morning newspapers, already has landed a sufficient force to hold the town.

While the Greek elections have given a large majority to former Premier Gounaris, a powerful member of the present cabinet, who is not overfriendly to the Entente powers, it is not believed here the change will have much of an effect on the attitude of Greece, which is now much more agitated by the possibility that Bulgarians will cross the frontier, than by the formation of a new government.

Along the western line, according to British official reports, the Germans suffered heavy losses, while exposing their forces in an attempt to occupy craters which their mines had opened along the front near Arras. French operations at most places are hampered greatly by bad weather, but a considerable portion of the German works on Hartmannswillerkopf has been carried.

The Russians are reported to have occupied Kum, which indicates they are making an important advance into the interior of Persia.

Although the question of conscription figured largely in the army debate last night in the House of Commons, it was only an incidental part of the discussion. The country awaits with keen interest the debate which is certain to follow presentation to the House of the Earl of Derby's figures on the attestation plan.

Lieutenant General Sir Archibald Murray has been appointed to succeed Sir Charles Monro as British commander at the Dardanelles, says an official statement issued Wednesday afternoon.

Sir Charles Monro has been appointed in command of the first British army in France, in succession to Sir Douglas Haig.

General Murray was chief of the imperial staff at London until a few days ago. Premier Asquith announced yesterday that he had been succeeded by Lieutenant General Robertson, chief of the general staff in the field, and that he was to receive an important command.

The command of the first British army was made vacant by the promotion of General Haig to be British commander-in-chief.

BRITISH TROOPS WITHDRAW TO PROCEED TO SALONIKI

BERLIN, Dec. 22.—The Cologne Gazette reports that British troops.

(Continued on page 3.)

Pittsburg Savings Bank

Fails to Open Its Doors

By Order of Banking Commissioner and Receiver Will Wind Up Affairs.

PITTSBURG, Dec. 22.—The Pittsburg Bank for Savings, one of the best known financial institutions in the city, did not open for business this morning, a card on the front door announcing that it had been closed by order of the Pennsylvania commissioner of banking. The bank had a capital of \$500,000 and deposits of \$10,345,713.

A statement issued by President W. J. Jones said that after consultation with the banking commissioner, it had been decided to close the bank and place its affairs in the hands of a receiver in order that its resources might be conserved for the depositors. Continuing he said:

"Owing to the failure of J. S. and W. S. Kuhn, Inc., in July, 1913, there was a large depreciation in the market value of the securities of certain corporations but it was hoped these companies would be rehabilitated and the securities would attain their former value. Through the efforts of the president half a million dollars has been added to the assets of the bank since July 7, 1913. The bank has a fine line of assets in addition to the securities mentioned, and I believe that a fifty per cent dividend can be paid depositors within sixty days."

"Crowds of persons surrounded the banking house early in the day, but there was no disorder although it reminded persons of the scene around the same bank in 1913 when the Kuhn failure was announced, and

(Continued on page 3.)

## CITIZEN PARTY

Of Adamston Nominates Ticket for the Coming Municipal Election There.

The following ticket was nominated at a meeting Tuesday night by the Citizens party of Adamston for the coming municipal election:

For mayor, W. V. Hutchinson; recorder, D. L. Swiger; councilmen: first ward, William Carr; second ward, R. E. Alexander; third ward, C. B. Wyckoff; fourth ward, Walter C. Baxter; fifth ward, Dr. D. Lee-son.

The party's executive committee is composed of William Fultz, W. V. Hutchinson, Aldridge Kidd and Walter C. Baxter.

The election is to be held Thursday, January 6.

## MOTHER

Of O. H. Grooms of This City Dies at Her Home at Findlay, O.

Mrs. Martha Grooms, wife of John Grooms, of Findlay, O., and mother of O. H. Grooms, ice cream maker at the Imperial Ice Cream Company's plant in Glen Elk, died at her home at Findlay, Tuesday, after an illness of throat trouble. Mr. Groom went to Findlay Tuesday night to attend the funeral.

Surviving relatives of the deceased woman are John Grooms, her husband, and O. H. Grooms, of this city; Fred Grooms, of Carey, O.; Charles and Albert Grooms, of Akron, O. sons. The funeral arrangements had not been decided when Mr. Grooms left for Findlay.

## NOTE DELIVERED.

LONDON, Dec. 22.—A Vienna telegram says that delivery to the Austrian foreign ministry of the second Ancona note from the United States is announced by the Neue Freie Press.

Franchise Application  
Referred to Ordinance  
Committee of Council

And City Attorney at Special Meeting to Make New Draft of the Franchise.

City council has instructed its ordinance committee, consisting of Dr. W. B. Conaway, Mayor G. H. Gordon and City Clerk A. J. Bishop, to prepare, in consultation with the city attorney, L. C. Crile, a new draft of an ordinance, embracing a franchise for the construction and operation of a natural gas supply system in this city by the Home Gas Company. The action was taken at an adjourned meeting of the body Tuesday night. The committee has been instructed to frame the ordinance so as to include several provisions not included in the tentative franchise drawn up by the attorney for the Home Gas Company and to report it back to the council for final action.

Attorney Homer E. Williams, representing the applicant, appeared before the council and urged speedy action in regard to the application in order that his company could prepare for additional capital, acquire more gas-producing territory and otherwise make ready to install an adequate system as soon as the weather opened, provided, of course, the franchise were granted. The request for speedy action aroused a lengthy discussion as to what some members of the council termed hasty legislation in an important matter concerning the rights of the people. Councilman Lewis O. Sutton wanted the ordinance committee to report

City council has instructed its ordinance committee, consisting of Dr. W. B. Conaway, Mayor G. H. Gordon and City Clerk A. J. Bishop, to prepare, in consultation with the city attorney, L. C. Crile, a new draft of an ordinance, embracing a franchise for the construction and operation of a natural gas supply system in this city by the Home Gas Company. The action was taken at an adjourned meeting of the body Tuesday night. The committee has been instructed to frame the ordinance so as to include several provisions not included in the tentative franchise drawn up by the attorney for the Home Gas Company and to report it back to the council for final action.

Attorney Homer E. Williams, representing the applicant, appeared before the council and urged speedy action in regard to the application in order that his company could prepare for additional capital, acquire more gas-producing territory and otherwise make ready to install an adequate system as soon as the weather opened, provided, of course, the franchise were granted. The request for speedy action aroused a lengthy discussion as to what some members of the council termed hasty legislation in an important matter concerning the rights of the people. Councilman Lewis O. Sutton wanted the ordinance committee to report

(Continued on page 8.)

## PEACE AGREEMENT

Between Commission and League Expected to Be Signed before Nightfall.

CHARLESTON, Dec. 22.—Charles H. Bronson, who served as a member of the West Virginia Public Service Commission, when the order lowering the rates of the Manufacturers' Light and Heat Company was entered, testified at the hearing on the company's appeal Wednesday that he recalled the conference with Governor Hatfield on which the company's charge of executive interference with the commission is based.

Mr. Bronson, who is the governor's brother-in-law, said that his impression of the governor's demands for an immediate decision on the question of rates was that the decision must be entered within twenty-four or thirty-six hours, or the commission must resign. He was permitted to make this statement after J. W. Vandervort, federal master hearing the evidence, had overruled an objection by the counsel for the commission.

Mr. Bronson testified that the commissioners had been called into the governor's office at the direction of Chairman Ott, he believed, and that the governor was emphatic in asking

(Continued on page 3.)

## SERBIAN TREASURY.

MARSEILLES, France, Dec. 22.—Eighteen million francs, constituting the Serbian treasury, have arrived here on the way to Paris. The money will be deposited in the Franco-Serbian bank at the capital.

DEMANDS ON AUSTRIA ARE  
RENEWED IN SECOND NOTE

## LIQUIDATION

Of J. V. Thompson's Indebtedness is to Proceed in an Orderly Manner. ALL IS TRANQUIL.

UNIONTOWN, Pa., Dec. 22.—E. R. Sorgham, of Cincinnati, who is here representing New York interests which are said to be planning to liquidate the indebtedness of J. V. Thompson, said Wednesday that if present plans carry out liquidation will begin early in January. By that time a creditors' committee, he said, would have been organized. The unsecured creditors, it was expected, would have reasons for encouragement as the Thompson properties are growing in value. The names of the New York financiers back of the movement have not been disclosed.

## DIRECT PROOF

Is Held by Bulgarian Government That Serbia Had a Hand in Assassination.

BERLIN, Dec. 22.—"According to the Sofia newspaper, Dnevnik," says the Overseas News Agency, "the Bulgarian minister to Serbia, M. Tchepachikoff, says the Bulgarian government holds proof in writing that the Serbian government was a direct accomplice in the assassination of Archduke Francis Ferdinand at Sarajevo. The Bulgarian government, it was stated, will shortly publish the document."

## SUBMARINE CAPTURED.

PARIS, Dec. 22.—According to a despatch to the Messagero from Malta, forwarded by the Havas correspondent at Rome, an Austrian submarine has been captured by two torpedo boats, presumably Italian.

United States Says Admiralty of Austria Makes an Important Admission.

## SECOND NOT PUBLIC NOW

Continuance of Good Relations between the Countries Depends on Austria.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—The reply of the United States to Austria's note on the destruction of the Italian liner Ancona, declares that the official admission of the Austrian admiralty that the liner was torpedoed after it had stopped and while passengers still were aboard, alone is sufficient for the American demand for disavowal, reparation and punishment of the submarine commander.

Secretary Lansing's second note already probably in the hands of the Austrian foreign minister and made public here today, renews the demands of the United States and says the details to which Austria referred its reply to the first American communication are in no way essential to the discussion. It emphasizes that the continuance of good relations between the two countries depends upon the action of the Austrian government. The full text of the note which is addressed to American Ambassador Penfield follows:

The government of the United States has received the note of Your Excellency relative to the sinking of the Ancona, which was delivered at Vienna on December 15, 1915, and transmitted to Washington and has given the note immediate and careful consideration.

On November 15, 1915, Baron Zwiadineh, the charge d'affaires of the imperial and royal government at Washington, transmitted to the department of state a report of the Austro-Hungarian admiralty with regard to the sinking of the steamship Ancona, in which it was admitted that the vessel was torpedoed after its engines had been stopped and when passengers were still on board. This admission alone is in the view of the government of the United States sufficient to fix upon the commander of the submarine which fired the torpedo the responsibility for having wilfully violated the recognized law of nations and entirely disregarding those humane principles which every belligerent should observe in the conduct of war at sea. In view of these admitted circumstances the government of the United States feels justified in holding that the details of the sinking of the Ancona, the weight and character of the additional testi-

(Continued on page 3.)

## UNCENSORED NEWS

Of the War in Europe is Being Received by Blind Persons in This Country.

NEW YORK, Dec. 22.—Miss Helen Keller and other blind persons in the United States are obtaining uncensored news from the capitals of the belligerent nations in Europe in newspapers published for the blind in London, Paris, Berlin and Vienna, according to Miss Keller. These newspapers are not censored, she says, because the type printed in a point type for the blind, which the censors are unable to read.

"These uncensored accounts of conditions in the warring countries tell me the true sentiment among the working people and the intolerable conditions that surround them," said Miss Keller. "Their hearts are aching at the breaking point."

HOUSE'S MISSION  
NOT FOR PEACE  
SAYS MR. WILSON

## GREEKS HOSTILE

To the English at Saloniki and a State of Panic Reigns There.

BERLIN, Dec. 22.—The Overseas News Agency says:

"Private reports from Saloniki indicate that a state of panic reigns there. The Greeks are hostile to the English, who behave arrogantly. The French and British are on bad terms. 'Nearly fifty members of the Serbian parliament are living in a hotel there. They have formed a provisional parliament and play cards during the night, while Serbian refugees are starving in the streets. The people of Saloniki are anxiously awaiting liberation by the central powers.'"

## MEXICAN FIRING

Across the Border in the Future is Ordered to Be Returned by Troops.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—American troops at El Paso, the war department announced Wednesday, have been given orders to "return vigorously any further deliberate firing from the Mexican side of the border."

General Pershing, in command at El Paso, has reported that the firing which resulted late Tuesday in the death of an American car inspector, was the deliberate act of a squad of Mexicans who appeared half a mile east of the international bridge.

## PAPEN SAILS

On the Noordam from the City of New York for the City of Rotterdam.

NEW YORK, Dec. 22.—Captain Franz von Papen, Germany's recalled military attaché, left New York for Rotterdam Wednesday on the steamship Noordam bearing a safe conduct to Germany from the Entente Allies.

## DRAWS A SENTENCE.

Convicted of giving liquor to a minor, D. K. Tremaine was fined \$100 and costs and sentenced to serve sixty days on the county roads and in jail Wednesday by Magistrate William E. Starcher.

## DANGER WARNING.

(By Associated Press.)  
NEW YORK, Dec. 22.—The Safety First Federation of America is sending out an appeal to the public to beware of the danger of Christmas fires. Warning is given that if candles are used on Christmas trees they should be constantly watched and a sheet of iron or tin placed beneath the tree to catch the drippings from the candles.

## KAISER ILL

And His Trip to the Western War Front is Therefore Postponed.

BERLIN, Dec. 22.—Emperor William has postponed the trip he had planned making to the western front, the Overseas News Agency announces, a slight indisposition making it necessary for him to remain indoors for a few days.

The agency's announcement describes the emperor's ailment as a "slight inflammation of the cellular system."

BRONSON SWEARS  
THREAT WAS MADE  
BY THE GOVERNOR

In Connection with Rate Case of Manufacturers' Light and Heat Company.

CHARLESTON, Dec. 22.—Charles H. Bronson, who served as a member of the West Virginia Public Service Commission, when the order lowering the rates of the Manufacturers' Light and Heat Company was entered, testified at the hearing on the company's appeal Wednesday that he recalled the conference with Governor Hatfield on which the company's charge of executive interference with the commission is based.

Mr. Bronson, who is the governor's brother-in-law, said that his impression of the governor's demands for an immediate decision on the question of rates was that the decision must be entered within twenty-four or thirty-six hours, or the commission must resign. He was permitted to make this statement after J. W. Vandervort, federal master hearing the evidence, had overruled an objection by the counsel for the commission.

Mr. Bronson testified that the commissioners had been called into the governor's office at the direction of Chairman Ott, he believed, and that the governor was emphatic in asking

(Continued on page 3.)